

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification as follows:

[0010] In another embodiment of the invention a system for controlling postage usage comprises one or more postage evidencing meters having a communication module for providing a communication link between the postage evidencing meter and a postage information system, wherein the ~~postage evidencing meter~~ postage information system includes a database for storing postage usage parameters for at least one user, wherein the parameters limit the at least one user's ability to evidence postage using the meter. The parameters include a maximum postage amount that the at least one user is allowed to use on the meter to evidence postage and/or a period of time during which the user is allowed to use the meter to evidence postage and/or an amount of postage that the user can use over a period of time (for example, \$10 per week). The communication link in the system may be a wireless link or a wireline link. The postage evidencing meters further comprise a removable storage device for storing postage usage parameters for at least one user, wherein the parameters limit the at least one user's ability to evidence postage using the meter.